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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Impressions of Kaliningrad Nov 1951/Border Controls for  
Latvian Fisherman on Official Business

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1. "Kaliningrad is the distribution centre for the German-built fishing boats delivered to the USSR under the reparations treaty. In late autumn 1951 I visited Kaliningrad twice to fetch trawlers assigned to the Bolshevik fishing kolkhoz in Liepaja.
2. "In order to enter Kaliningrad and its oblast an MVD entry permit was required. Travel from Latvia through Lithuania was entirely free, and the passengers' documents were checked only when the train had passed Klaipeda. On my first journey my documents were checked by MVD-men and railway militiamen. On the second journey the inspectors were in civilian clothes. [redacted] way station at Kaliningrad I saw many railway militiamen standing about, but my documents were not checked. [redacted] but no other control was made.
3. "Travelling through the Kaliningrad oblast, [redacted] it was largely depopulated. Very few people could be seen at the stations and fewer still in the countryside. Those visible were mostly military men. Cultivated fields were rather infrequent. Now and then barracks and exercising soldiers could be seen from the train window.
4. "The town of Kaliningrad was still very seriously damaged. The South railway station, where the trains from Lithuania stop, was unscathed. Very little rehabilitation work could be seen. In a few places soldiers were repairing blocks of houses, probably to provide lodgings for military personnel. There were no buses in the town, only trams.
5. "The Schichau shipyards seemed quite dead. No work was going on anywhere. At the landing places there were only a few mine-sweepers. Many wrecks lie alongside the quays. Here and there coal and wood pulp was being loaded on barges. At the railway car factory, probably the largest enterprise of the town, about 50 new boxcars were standing on the rails. A few metal platforms were also among them.

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- 25X1 6. "Many women were working at that factory, operating electric cranes, metal cutters, etc. Women workers dominated the whole town. The entire personnel of the tram-cars were women. There were many soldiers in Kaliningrad but they did not dominate the streets; civilians were in the majority. [REDACTED] large military units were located east of the town. A number of Latvians were said to be doing their military service in a communication unit there.
- 25X1 7. [REDACTED] there was no longer a single German in the town.
- 25X1 8. "Naval vessels are seldom seen in Kaliningrad, [REDACTED] only a few torpedo boats. The warships are mostly stationed in Baltiysk (Pillau). [REDACTED]
- 25X1 9. [REDACTED]
- 25X1 10. "Close to the place where the canal emerges into the sea (Haff) there is rather a large power station with a cross-country main. It is located close by a large coal dump."

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